

mind who gets the credit." Bill's example of servant leadership is one that has shaped the lives of many individuals and shown that a benevolent heart earns the respect of others.

It is for this spirit of service and dedication to the highest standards of excellence that I am honored to recognize the contributions and to acknowledge the retirement of a man who is a credit to my office, his family, and our country.

As he moves into the next phase of his life, I want to express my gratitude, not only for all of his help with my work in representing the 13th district, but for all he has done so far to make our community and our region a better place to live.

#### HONORING AND COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF JAMES E. BURCH

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commemorate the life of James E. Burch, military veteran, advertising executive and lifelong anti-war and environmental activist. A renaissance man with a passion for leaving the world better than he found it, Jim spent his life acting on the life philosophy passed along to him by his mother, "I am my brother's keeper."

Born in Evanston, Illinois on February 27, 1926, Jim served in the United States Infantry in the South Pacific. At age 19, he became the program director of the Armed Forces Radio Service station WVTQ in Osaka, Japan. He was honorably discharged in May 1946. After working in the radio business in Hollywood, he moved to Arizona where he met and married his wife of 61 years, Wileta. In 1951, Jim, Wileta and their two children, Bill and Barbara moved to northern California where Jim began a 23-year career working with the San Francisco-based advertising agency Batten, Barton, Durstine & Osborn where he created numerous award winning advertisements.

Jim left his professional position and began his second career as a volunteer activist. Instrumental in the beginnings and ongoing work of Sequoia Seminar, Creative Initiative, Project Survival, Beyond War and the Foundation for Global Community, Jim contributed his many talents to groundbreaking projects. Among them were, the beginning of a recycling program in Palo Alto, California that became a model for the Nation, the first space bridge to connect the United States and the Soviet Union during the Cold War (1984), the first satellite space bridge connecting seven countries on five continents (1985) and the creation of a series of nature documentaries that were featured on PBS. Jim served as a Member of the Board of Trustees for the Foundation for Global Community until December of 2010.

Launching yet a third career, Jim was elected to the Palo Alto City Council in 1999. In 2005, at the age of 78, he was elected mayor, the oldest mayor in the city's history. While knowing that the job required a local focus, Jim continued to bring his understanding of global interconnectedness to city government. He observed on more than one occasion that, "It's one world, it's one Earth, it's one planet; it's one ecosystem. We're either all going to make it or nobody's going to make it."

Jim is survived by Wileta, his son Bill Burch, (Bill's wife, Kathy), his daughter Barbara Lindsay, (Barbara's husband, Targe) and grandchildren Merrill Burch, David Lindsay, (David's wife, Stephanie), Kristina Lindsay, and his many friends and colleagues whose lives were enriched by his sense of humor, creativity and generosity.

#### ROBERT GRIFFIN III—BAYLOR HEISMAN

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, each year the Heisman Memorial Trophy is presented to the "outstanding college football player whose performance best exhibits the pursuit of excellence with integrity." The 2011 winner, Baylor University Quarterback Robert Griffin III, or RG3 as he's known to fans, highly deserves American collegiate athletics most celebrated honor.

Robert was born in Okinawa, Japan to two U.S. Army Sergeants. They would eventually settle in football-mad Texas, home of the original Friday Night Lights, but Robert's talents could not be contained to the gridiron. He was a three sport star for Copperas Cove High School, excelling in baseball, football, and track.

Recruiters came from across the nation to bring Robert's talents to their University, but he believed in the message of Head Coach Art Briles and followed him to Baylor, not known as a football powerhouse. In 2008 Robert shined, starting 11 of his 12 games and winning the Big 12 Freshman of the Year honors. The Bears finished 4-8 but their future was bright.

2010 was the breakthrough year for RG3 and the Baylor Bears. They fought to a 7-5 record and played in their first bowl game in over 15 years and also ranked in the national top 25 for the first time in 30 years. Robert dug deep inside himself and vowed to lead the Bears through uncharted waters—football prominence.

The 2011 season started off with a bang. The Bears defeated #14 TCU, the previous year's Rose Bowl winner. Robert would command the Bears to a 9-3 record, their best in over 25 years, including upsets of Texas and, for the first time in school history, then #5 Oklahoma. Griffin was dangerous in the air and on his feet, passing for 3,998 yards and 36 touchdowns while rushing for 644 yards and 9 touchdowns. He led the nation with a 192.31 passing efficiency, on pace to shatter the all-time record. The success propelled the team into a bowl for the second consecutive year and made Griffin the 77th Heisman Trophy winner and first from Baylor University.

Robert was a leader both on and off the field. The perennial Honor Roll student graduated in three years with his political science degree and will finish his Masters in Communication next spring. He is as known for his faith as he is his football abilities. Upon winning the trophy in New York City, he and his military family immediately headed to the Ground Zero 9/11 memorial for some reflection. Robert never forgot his roots.

Mr. Speaker, it is always refreshing to see good things happen to good people, and Rob-

ert Griffin III deserves all the success and more. I am honored to commemorate his accomplishments and proud to call him a Texan. And that's just the way it is.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. GEOFF DAVIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, December 15, 2011, I was unable to vote due to an important family event.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

On rollcall No. 933—"yes"—Approval of the Journal.

On rollcall No. 934—"yes"—H.R. 886—U.S. Marshals Service 225th Anniversary Commemorative Coin Act.

On rollcall No. 935—"yes"—H.R. 2719, Rattlesnake Mountain Public Access Act.

On rollcall No. 936—"yes"—H.R. 443, To Provide for the conveyance of certain property from the U.S. to the Maniilaq Association in Kotzebue, AK.

#### RECOGNIZING 16TH ANNIVERSARY OF DAYTON PEACE ACCORDS

#### HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. TURNER of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today I am glad to recognize the 16th anniversary of the Dayton Peace Accords.

On December 14, 1995, the General Framework Agreement for Peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina, known as the Dayton Peace Accords, ended a conflict that threatened to destabilize Europe and resulted in the death of approximately 250,000 people, and the displacement of more than 2,000,000 men, women, and children.

Negotiations began on November 1, 1995, at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio, and concluded there on November 21, 1995, when the leaders of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia all agreed to a breakthrough peace settlement that sought to halt conflicts that began in Bosnia and Herzegovina in April 1992.

Previous attempts to negotiate peace in Bosnia and Herzegovina had been unsuccessful; and the negotiations were initiated under intense pressure by many of the world powers, particularly the United States and Russia, prompting the leaders of the three sides to attend the negotiations in Dayton, Ohio.

The United States negotiating team, led by Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, guided peace negotiations endorsed by members of the European Union (EU) and Russian Federation; and 21 days of intense negotiations occurring at the Hope Hotel at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base brought hope and an opportunity for peace.

The negotiations succeeded, against all predictions, due to the visionary leadership, the determination of all involved, the desire for peaceful resolution of the conflict, and the extensive community support. Wright-Patterson Air Force Base was chosen as the site of the

negotiations due to its diversity and security, which offered an environment where the warring parties could focus on negotiating peace out of the spotlight of the media and away from distracting geopolitical pressures.

The Dayton community unexpectedly became part of the process as its people became proud to be part of history, holding candlelight vigils, placing 'candles of peace' in their front windows, congratulating and praying for the negotiators, forming a human peace chain around Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, and continuing to study peace and human rights based on the community's experiences hosting these historic negotiations.

The negotiators highlighted Ohio's ethnic diversity to show the warring parties that people from disparate ethnic histories could live everyday life in peace; and the Dayton Peace Accords provided a framework and common agreement to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) implementation and stabilization force missions which provided security for the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, and Serbia.

The Dayton Literary Peace Prize, established in 2006, remains the only literary peace prize awarded in the United States, and continues the legacy of the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords by honoring authors who write about peace and whose work provides enduring literary value.

The Dayton International Peace Museum in downtown Dayton, a nonprofit, all-volunteer organization, is one of the few community-based institutions with a focus on peace in the United States, and the Museum honors Dayton's history as the host of the 1995 Dayton Peace Accords, offering nonpartisan educational programs and exhibits featuring themes of non-violent conflict resolution, social justice issues, international relations, and peace.

Mr. Speaker, the Dayton, Ohio, community supported the peace negotiations and worked to create a strong, lasting relationship with Bosnia and Herzegovina by hosting numerous visiting delegations, creating a sister city relationship with Sarajevo, and hosting an international anniversary commemoration. Bosnia and Herzegovina has received a conditional Membership Action Plan to join NATO pending continued progress on reforms. Croatia is progressing on the path to join the EU, became a NATO member in 2009, and has deployed troops around the world, including in Afghanistan, fighting alongside the United States Armed Forces to bring peace, stability, and prosperity to others. The Montenegrin Parliament declared independence from Serbia on June 3, 2006, and thus created a multi-ethnic country with a viable economy, professional military and democratic institutions.

The entire State of Ohio has contributed to stability and prosperity in the Balkan region by fostering an exemplary relationship between the Ohio National Guard and the Serbian Armed Forces; and the Dayton Peace Accords effectively ended the conflict, created a multi-ethnic country in the Balkans, and addressed topics critical to the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina, including regional stabilization, a constitutional framework, the repatriation of refugees, and internal security.

## HONORING 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF HILL-MURRAY

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the students, alumni, parents, faculty and staff of Hill-Murray School in Maplewood, Minnesota on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary. This educational institution has a distinguished record on academics, community involvement and athletic success.

Archbishop Murray Memorial high school was founded in 1958 by the Benedictine Sisters as a school for young women. In 1959, just a few blocks down the street, the Christian Brothers founded the Hill High School as a school for boys. Classes officially began in both schools in 1951, and in 1971 the schools merged and the Hill-Murray School was born.

During the past 50 years, Hill-Murray has strived for excellence in all areas. Its mission statement declares the school "is committed to developing creative and responsible leaders for tomorrow's world who will provide effective moral leadership in their local and global communities". This charge is reflected in both the school's design and its results: from its students, 92% of whom enroll in post-high school educational institutions; to its classrooms, where the student-teacher ratio is 14:1; and to its teachers 79% of whom hold advanced degrees and 80% of whom have more than 5 years of experience.

Following the school's mission to prepare students not only for college but for the broader journey of life, Hill-Murray students in grades nine through twelve complete two service requirements per year helping the economically disadvantaged, the physically or mentally impaired, and the elderly. With its emphasis on developing the entire person, 90% of the student body participates in extra-curricular activities.

The Hill-Murray athletics department has one of the finest histories in the State of Minnesota. In the past 5 years, Hill-Murray teams and individual athletes advanced to the Minnesota State Tournament in boys and girls basketball, boys and girls track, boys and girls golf, girls tennis, competitive cheerleading, and danceline. The boys Hockey team is regarded as one of the best in the state, and earned its 3rd State Championship in 2008.

Additionally Hill-Murray has produced 6 National Hockey League players, 3 World Hockey Association players, over 70 Division I NCAA players; 2 Major League Baseball players, and 3 Olympians including a member of the gold-medal winning 1980 U.S. Hockey team responsible for the 'Miracle on Ice.'

Mr. Speaker, in honor of all members of the Hill-Murray family, I am pleased to submit this statement for the Congressional Record recognizing the many contributions this school has made to the State of Minnesota and the United States of America during the past 50 years.

## THE DECLARATION OF OCCUPY D.C.

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following:

THE DECLARATION OF OCCUPY D.C.

CONSENTED TO BY GENERAL ASSEMBLY

NOVEMBER 30TH, 2011

We have been captives of corrupt economic and political systems for far too long. The concentration of wealth and the purchase of political power stifle the voices of the increasingly disenfranchised 99 percent. Corporate dominance subverts democracy, intentionally sows division, destroys the environment, obstructs the just and equitable pursuit of happiness, and violates the rights and dignity of all life.

Occupy D.C. is an open community of diverse individuals, facing different forms of oppression and impacted by economic exploitation to differing degrees, but united by a shared vision of equality for the common good. The harsh economic conditions that have plagued the poor, working class, and communities of color for generations have begun to affect the previously financially secure. This acute awareness of our common fate has united us in our struggle for a better future. We recognize that inequality and injustice systemically affect every aspect of our society: our communities, homes, and hearts. To build the world we envision, we commit ourselves to overcoming our personal biases so we can successfully challenge systems of oppression in solidarity.

We are peaceably assembled at McPherson Square, practicing direct democracy on the doorstep of K Street, the epicenter of destructive corporate and governmental relationships. Recognizing that the term "occupy" is associated with exploitation, violence, and imperialism, we are reclaiming it to mean the peaceful liberation of public space. In this disenfranchised city, we are insisting that our economic and political systems serve the people's interests. Now is the time to advance and complete the struggles of the many who came before us.

We are assembled because . . .

It is absurd that the 1 percent has taken 40 percent of the nation's wealth through exploiting labor, outsourcing jobs, and manipulating the tax code to their benefit through special capital tax rates and loopholes. The system is rigged in their favor, yet they cry foul when anyone even dares to question their relentless class warfare.

Candidates in our electoral system require huge sums of money to be competitive. These contributions from multi-national corporations and wealthy individuals destroy responsive representative governance. A system of backroom deals, kickbacks, bribes, and dirty politics overrides the will of the people. The rotation of decision makers between the public and private sectors cultivates a network of public officials, lobbyists, and executives whose aligned interests do not serve the American people.

The entrenched two-party system overlooks public interests by pursuing narrow political goals. This climate encourages candidates to polarize voters for individual power and personal gain. Citizens' meaningful input has been compromised by gerrymandering, voter disenfranchisement, and unresponsive politicians. Residents of Washington, D.C., continue to lack autonomy and legislative representation.

The 1 percent benefits from economic, political, and legal structures that oppress